



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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Date: October 21, 2005
Release Number TX 425.05

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR ROMA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, INC.

ROMA, TEXAS, October 21, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that Roma Economic Development Corporation was selected to receive \$76,000 through the Agency's Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program. The funds will be used to establish a revolving loan fund to increase economic growth, employment, and prosperity in the City of Roma. To highlight this event, a ceremonial check will be presented to the Honorable Fernando Pena, Mayor, City of Roma.

"One of the goals of USDA Rural Development is to provide funding to rural communities in an effort to promote economic development," said Daniel. "This grant will allow the Roma Economic Development Corporation an opportunity to recruit new businesses and create new jobs for the citizens of Starr County."

Potential businesses in rural communities interested in the RBEG program must employ 50 or fewer new employees; have less than \$1 million in projected gross revenue; have or will utilize technological innovations or commercialize new products that can be produced or manufactured in rural areas; or have new processes that can be used in such production. Public bodies and not-for-profit entities including Federally recognized Indian Tribes located in rural areas or in communities under 50,000 population are eligible. Priority is given to applicants from communities of 25,000 or less.

For more information regarding this and other USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Rio Grande City Local Office at 956-487-5576, Ext. 4.

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